



**DATE:** June 21, 2019  
**TO:** Mayor and Council  
**FROM:** Ryan Mahoney, Town Manager  
**RE:** Weekly Update  
**CC:** Department Heads

This week's report will feature most of its content from our staff. I have been out of the office for a few days to attend part of the CML conference. The remainder of my week, including today was spent preparing for next week's Council meeting.

## Public Works

Public Works, as a precaution, installed sand bags on the bank at the River Park. The bank has a slight drop in elevation that in past years we have sandbagged to protect the trail.

The Cottonwood Drive Safe Routes to School Project started this week. The project is primarily a surface project and will not involve a lot of deep digging. Its focus is to widen the sidewalks, replace stairs and some signs to improve pedestrian safety going to and from school.

Ryan, SGM, Planning, Police, RFTA and Public Works met with the Frontier Paving, our street maintenance contractor, to discuss the logistics involved in closing the intersection at Two Rivers and Midland for two days to complete a resurfacing project. The process will involve milling up the existing asphalt, installing a reinforcing mat to keep the asphalt at the intersection from pushing and then repaving the intersection. The closure will take place in late July and we are working on a plan to inform the public and adjacent businesses.

Progress was made this week on getting the new electric car charger installed. The area was excavated and the concrete was poured and finished. The conduit and the basic framework have been added and we are waiting on a State inspection before we can actually install the charging unit.

## Planning

**Special Events** – Here are the next upcoming special events.

- **Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>** – R.J. Paddywacks Anniversary event adjacent to the store. 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.
- **Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>** - Master Plan picnic on the Emma Bridge, Harmony Park and adjacent area aimed at participation by the Hispanic Community. 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm.
- **Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>** – Basalt Wednesday Summer Music Concert Series (under the Basalt Chamber) at Triangle Park in Willits. 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.
- **Thursday, June 27<sup>th</sup>** – Dedication of first of the Basalt Vista Homes at 11:00 am.
- **Wednesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Anniversary of the Lake Christine Fire sponsored by the Basalt Heritage Society at Arbaney Park. 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

**Basalt Master Plan** – The Consultant team is working on increasing participation with the participation in the [www.LetsTalk.Basalt.org](http://www.LetsTalk.Basalt.org) website, including radio advertisements, newspaper ads, a pub crawl on Friday night, picnic geared to Hispanic community on Sunday, banners and emails.

**Housing Meeting** – The Master Plan Consultants held a meeting on Thursday from 4pm – 6pm on the topic of affordable/attainable housing in the Roaring Fork Valley. The meeting was very well attended and included members of Town Council, BACH, P&Z, Eagle County, Pitkin County, the Fire District, the Aspen Skiing Company, Salvation Army, Habitat for Humanity, the Basalt Chamber and many more. Randy Rhodes from the consulting firm McCormack Baron Salazar gave a brief presentation on multi-family projects his firm has completed through public-private partnerships and with various funding mechanisms. A robust discussion ensued highlighting a variety of issues in all Valley communities, with strategies suggested related to policy, financing, employee wages, etc. Participants overwhelmingly expressed interest in continuing the discussion toward formulating a regional approach to affordable housing, and exploring a regional housing authority.



**Basalt Sunday Market** - The 2019 market season began on June 16<sup>th</sup> and will continue each Sunday through September 29<sup>th</sup>, rain or shine. The first market was a success with great attendance, despite a brief afternoon rain shower. As the season progresses, each market will see more vendors, particularly as the produce vendors come on board with their wares.

**Arboney Swimming Pool Project** – The pre-proposal meeting was held on Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>. The positive news is that we had 5 firms that came to the meeting. The Proposals are due on July 9<sup>th</sup>. The goal is to construct the improvements in 2020.

**Installation of dc Fast Charger** – Planning and Public Works Staff are partnering with Holy Cross Energy and Jim Rio of Alliance Electric to complete the installation of the Level 3 electric vehicle charger at Town Hall. The charger will be located adjacent to the stage at Lion’s Park, at the end of the on-street parking spaces. Due to the scheduling of the state electrical inspection, Staff has requested an extension of the project completion, although every effort is being made to complete the installation by the end of June.

**River Master Plan Charrette on Wednesday June 26<sup>th</sup>** – The Charrette for the planning of the park improvements for the Basalt River Park is scheduled for 3:00 pm on Wednesday, June 26<sup>th</sup>. The Town Council is invited to join the POST Committee and participate in the Charrette.

**Green Team** – On Monday, Sara Nadolny attended a meeting of the Eagle County Climate Action Collaborative in Edwards. The working groups shared their updates, highlights of which included rolling out a program for benchmarking buildings to determine their greenhouse gas contributions (\$5,000 fee for participants), an annual waste education day to take place in Vail in November, additional dc fast charging station locations throughout Eagle County, and an LED bulb swap event happening this summer in Eagle. Guest speakers included Steve Novy, an architect based in Carbondale, who presented on green building techniques and highlighted the ACES house project in Carbondale, and Heather Shrock of

the Bonneville Environmental Foundation who presented on the topic of water and its relation to climate change.

**EOTC** – Watkins attended the 6/20 EOTC meeting at the Pitkin County Building. They discussed in detail the planned improvements to the Brush Creek Park and Ride, which they hope will increase ridership. They are also moving forward with a new dynamic message sign at a cost of at least \$450,000.

**Basalt Vista Job Site Trainings** – Contractors, builders, design professionals, etc. have been invited to attend on-site trainings at the Habitat for Humanity Basalt Vista project site. The first of three trainings took place on June 19<sup>th</sup> and was well attended. Two additional training opportunities are scheduled for July 24<sup>th</sup> and August 21<sup>st</sup> from 5 pm – 7 pm. Upon completion attendees will receive two continuing education credits that will satisfy the requirements of the updated Sustainable Building Regulations for a period of 18 months.

## **Police Department**

All officers are attending annual mandatory firearms qualifications for on-duty handgun, off-duty handgun and patrol rifle. Each officer is required to maintain 100% accuracy scores for all three qualifications.

The police department participated in planning meeting for the upcoming pavement resurfacing project in the Two Rivers Road / Midland Avenue intersection.

Chief Greg Knott attended a five hour law enforcement liability round-table in Carbondale. High liability areas and best practices were discussed. This round-table was hosted by our insurance carrier, Colorado Intergovernmental Risk Sharing Agency.

The police department continues to monitor river levels and potential debris flows from the burn scar. Chief Knott participated in two separate conference calls this week. The first was with the Bureau of Reclamation regarding future releases from Ruedi Reservoir. The Bureau of Reclamation is not expecting to increase the Fryingpan River above 950 cubic feet per second. It is currently flowing at 810 cubic feet per second. They are also expecting to keep the Boustead Diversion Tunnel in full operation at 940 cubic feet per second. The second meeting was with emergency managers and operations personnel from across the State to discuss statewide weather forecasts, flood forecasting, preparation mutual aid response if needed.

The police department assisted with four separate river rescues. All for water crafts flipped in the white water features along Two Rivers Road.

## **Finance**

Buon giorno, or should I say, hello! Today is my first day back at the Town from visiting Italy and Greece, and I'm glad to get started on the work again. I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to go on this amazing trip with my son. Thank you to Ryan, Jenny, and the whole staff for holding down the fort in my absence!

Our auditor informed us of some recent news regarding the relatively small town of Riviera Beach, Florida, whose accounting system was nonfunctional after an attack involving ransomware. The extortionists demanded payment of \$600,000 for their accounting system and information, along with other systems. I forwarded this information to ProVelocity, our IT company, to look in to our

susceptibility to this type of attack. It's important for the Town to be aware of this potential threat, and take precautionary measures to guard against cyber attacks. We currently have cyber insurance through CIRSA as well. Additional information on the ransomware attack at Riviera Beach, Florida can be found here: [https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2019/06/20/florida-city-will-pay-hackers-get-its-computer-systems-back/?utm\\_term=.13f208348d48](https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2019/06/20/florida-city-will-pay-hackers-get-its-computer-systems-back/?utm_term=.13f208348d48)

We are currently in the process of working through some more check list items for our financial audit, which will be presented to Council during the second meeting in July. Our audit has put us behind on our current year's financial information due to the number of accounts that needed to be reconciled for multiple years, including some prior year restatements. We'll continue to work on catching up as a finance department, but it will take some time and patience.